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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/744,237	02/23/2001	Benot Cristol	01006	9600

2338 7590 05/02/2002

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EXAMINER

BOS, STEVEN J

APPLICANT TRANSFERABLE

DATE MAILED 05/02/2002

Please find below and or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/744,237

Applicant(s)

Cristol

Examiner

Steven Bos

Art Unit

1754



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 26, 2001

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____

3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

4. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 6

6. ☐ Other: _____

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The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is confusing and ungrammatical.

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors.

In claim 1, "(PT; ST; TT)" is indefinite as to what this is to mean or represent.

In claim 1, "the hydrate produced" is awkward and confusing and it appears that --alumina hydrate-- or the like was intended.

In claim 1, "rotating hydrate" is indefinite as to what is considered to be "rotating hydrate".

In claim 1, "characterized in that it comprises" is awkward and confusing and would be clearer if written as --comprising--.

In claim 1a, "once and for all, intended firstly" is awkward and confusing.

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In claim 1a, "to setup a relation R in intensity and in time between the rotating hydrate material passing X1 um and material passing X2 um" is indefinite as to what is considered to be "intensity," ie. "intensity" of what, and how is it related to "time," for example, is it a ratio? It is unclear what "time" is a measurement of, ie. the time of what?

In claim 1a, "the rotating hydrate material" lack(s) proper antecedent basis in the claim(s).

In claim 1a, "to define trigger thresholds on the value of material passing X1 um" is indefinite as to what this is to mean.

In claim 1a, "the maximum authorized variation interval" is indefinite as to what this is to mean.

In claim 1b, "control of the process itself" is indefinite as to what this is to mean and how it limits the claim.

In claim 1b, "the installation operating period" lack(s) proper antecedent basis in the claim(s).

In claim 1b, "apart from the daily measurement (M2) of material passing X2 um" is indefinite as to what this is to mean and as to what "material" is or refers to.

In claim 1b, "a regular update of the correlation between the said material passing X2 um and the particle size of the hydrate produced" is indefinite and confusing as to what this is to mean and what the "correlation" is, ie. How are they correlated?

In claim 1b, "triggering of corrective action on the slurry" is indefinite and confusing as to what this is to mean and what is considered to be "corrective action".

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In claim 1b, "the measured value of material passing X1 um reaches one of the regularly updated trigger thresholds determined in the previous step" is indefinite as to what "material" is being referred to here and lack(s) proper antecedent basis in the claim(s) as to "the regularly updated trigger thresholds" and "the previous step".

In claim 2, "the slurry" lack(s) proper antecedent basis in the claim(s).

In claim 3, "the slurry" lack(s) proper antecedent basis in the claim(s).

In claim 3, "the pregnant liquor" lack(s) proper antecedent basis in the claim(s).

In claim 3, "the first agglomeration tank" lack(s) proper antecedent basis in the claim(s).

In claim 3, "the first feed tank" lack(s) proper antecedent basis in the claim(s).

In claim 5, "at pump-off" is indefinite as to what this is or refers to.

In claim 6, "the concentration of pregnant aluminate liquor" lack(s) proper antecedent basis in the claim(s).

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

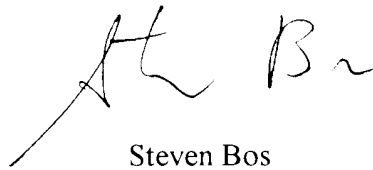
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven Bos whose telephone number is (703) 308-2537. The examiner is on the increased flexitime program schedule. The FAX No. for After Final amendments is 703-872-9311; for all others it is 703-872-9310.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Bos", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Steven Bos
Primary Examiner
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